CLAIMS

We claim:

1　　1. A method of managing assets controlled by members of an organization, said

2　organization having a central server configured to access data and software systems of said

3　organization, comprising the steps of:

4　　　　identifying one or more of said assets for management and submitting an asset

5　　　　　　disposition request to said central server;

6　　　　automatically, based on receipt of said asset disposition request, obtaining all

7　　　　　　required approvals for said asset disposition request;

8　　　　automatically, based on said obtaining of all required approvals, effecting said asset

9　　　　　　disposition request; and

10　　automatically modifying said data to reflect said effected disposition request.

1　　2. A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said step of automatically modifying

2　said data comprises modifying financial data of said organization.

1　　3. A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said financial data comprises at least

2　tax records and balance sheets.

1   4. A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said data includes asset inventory data,

2   personnel data, and financial data, and wherein said software systems of said organization

3   include an automated routing system coupled to said asset inventory data, said personnel

4   data, and said financial data, said step of automatically obtaining all required approvals

5   comprising at least the steps of:

6   identifying from said asset inventory data all assets affected by said asset disposition

7   request;

8   determining from if said identified assets meet a predetermined disposition criteria;

9   if said predetermined disposition criteria has been met, identifying from said

10   personnel data any personnel required to approve said asset disposition

11   request;

12   requesting approvals from said identified personnel using said automated routing

13   system; and

14   receiving said approvals from said identified personnel using said automated routing

15   system.

1   5. A method as set forth in claim 4, wherein said step of automatically effecting

2   said asset disposition request comprises at least the steps of:

3   changing the control status of identified assets in accordance with said asset

4   disposition request;

5   notifying, using said automated routing system, any member of said organization

6   responsible for effecting said disposition request;

7   receiving, from said member(s) of said organization responsible for effecting said

8   disposition request, confirmation that said asset disposition request has been

9   effected; and

10   notifying, using said automated routing system, all members of said organization

11   affected by said disposition.

        6. A method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said disposition comprises transferring

said identified asset(s) from one member to another member of said organization.

        7. A method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said disposition comprises selling said

identified asset(s) to a third party outside of said organization.

1   8. A method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said disposition comprises transferring

2   said identified asset(s) from one department to another department within said

3   organization.

1   9. A method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said disposition comprises retiring said

2   identified asset(s).

1   10. A method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said disposition comprises placing

2   said identified asset(s) in a list of surplus assets for a predetermined period of time.

1   11. A system for managing assets controlled by members of an organization, said

2   organization having a central server configured to access data and software systems of said

3   organization, comprising:

4   means for identifying one or more of said assets for management and submitting an

5   asset disposition request to said central server;

6   means for automatically, based on receipt of said asset disposition request,

7   obtaining all required approvals for said asset disposition request;

8   means for automatically, based on said obtaining of all required approvals, effecting

9   said asset disposition request; and

10   means for automatically modifying said data to reflect said effected disposition

11   request.

1   12. A system as set forth in claim 11, wherein said means for automatically

2   modifying said data modifies financial data of said organization.

1   13. A system as set forth in claim 12, wherein said financial data comprises at least

2   tax records and balance sheets.

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1   14. A system as set forth in claim 11, wherein said data includes asset inventory

2   data, personnel data, and financial data, and wherein said software systems of said

3   organization include an automated routing system coupled to said asset inventory data, said

4   personnel data, and said financial data, said means for automatically obtaining all required

5   approvals comprising at least :

6   means for identifying from said asset inventory data all assets affected by said asset

7   disposition request;

8   means for determining if said identified asset(s) meet a predetermined disposition

9   criteria;

10   means for identifying from said personnel data, if said predetermined disposition

11   criteria has been met, any personnel required to approve said asset

12   disposition request;

13   means for requesting approvals from said identified personnel using said automated

14   routing system; and

15   means for receiving said approvals from said identified personnel using said

16   automated routing system.

1   15. A system as set forth in claim 14, wherein said means for automatically

2   effecting said asset disposition request comprises at least:

3   means for changing the control status of identified assets in accordance with said

4   asset disposition request;

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5   means for notifying any member of said organization responsible for effecting said

6   disposition request;

7   means for receiving, from said member(s) of said organization responsible for

8   effecting said disposition request, confirmation that said asset disposition

9   request has been effected; and

10   means for notifying all members of said organization affected by said disposition.

1   16.   A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises

2   transferring said identified asset(s) from one member to another member of said

3   organization.

1   17.   A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises selling

2   said identified asset(s) to a third party outside of said organization.

1   18.   A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises

2   transferring said identified asset(s) from one department to another department within said

3   organization.

1   19.   A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises retiring

2   said identified asset(s).

1   20. A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises placing

2   said identified asset(s) in a list of surplus assets for a predetermined period of time.

1   21. A computer program product for managing assets controlled by members of

2   an organization, said organization having a central server configured to access data and

3   software systems of said organization, the computer program product comprising a

4   computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code embodied in

5   the medium, the computer-readable program code comprising:

6   computer-readable program code that identifies one or more of said assets for

7   management and submits an asset disposition request to said central server;

8   computer-readable program code that automatically, based on receipt of said asset

9   disposition request, obtains all required approvals for said asset disposition

10   request;

11   computer-readable program code that automatically, based on said obtaining of all

12   required approvals, effects said asset disposition request; and

13   computer-readable program code that automatically modifies said data to reflect

14   said effected disposition request.

1   22. A computer program product as set forth in claim 21, wherein the computer-

2   readable program code that automatically modifies said data comprises computer-readable

3   program code that modifies financial data of said organization.

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1   23. A computer program product as set forth in claim 22, wherein said financial

2   data comprises at least tax records and balance sheets.

1   24. A computer program product as set forth in claim 21, wherein said data

2   includes asset inventory data, personnel data, and financial data, and wherein said software

3   systems of said organization include an automated routing system coupled to said asset

4   inventory data, said personnel data, and said financial data, and wherein the computer-

5   readable program code that automatically obtains all required approvals comprises at least:

6   computer-readable program code that identifies from said asset inventory data all

7   assets affected by said asset disposition request;

8   computer-readable program code that determines if said identified assets meet a

9   predetermined disposition criteria;

10   computer-readable program code that, if said predetermined disposition criteria has

11   been met, identifies from said personnel data any personnel required to

12   approve said asset disposition request;

13   computer-readable program code that requests approvals from said identified

14   personnel using said automated routing system; and

15   computer-readable program code that receives said approvals from said identified

16   personnel using said automated routing system.

1   25. A computer program product as set forth in claim 24, wherein the computer-

2   readable program code that automatically effects said asset disposition request comprises

3   at least:

4   computer-readable program code that changes the control status of identified assets

5   in accordance with said asset disposition request;

6   computer-readable program code that notifies, using said automated routing system,

7   any member of said organization responsible for effecting said disposition

8   request;

9   computer-readable program code that receives, from said member(s) of said

10   organization responsible for effecting said disposition request, confirmation

11   that said asset disposition request has been effected; and

12   computer-readable program code that notifies, using said automated routing system,

13   all members of said organization affected by said disposition.

1   26. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition

2   comprises transferring said identified asset(s) from one member to another member of said

3   organization.

1   27. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition

2   comprises selling said identified asset(s) to a third party outside of said organization.

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1   28. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition

2   comprises transferring said identified asset(s) from one department to another department

3   within said organization.

1   29. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition

2   comprises retiring said identified asset(s).

1   30. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition

2   comprises placing said identified asset(s) in a list of surplus assets for a predetermined

3   period of time.